

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) In a computing environment, a method for obtaining taxonomy information for one or more nodes in a taxonomy, the method comprising:

an act of receiving a request for taxonomy-related information, the request including identification data identifying a node within the taxonomy and relationship data identifying a specified relationship a node is to have with the identified node;

an act of extracting the identification data and the relationship data from the request; and

an act of querying a one or more databases on-in accordance with the identification data extracted from the request and the relationship data to obtain taxonomy-related information about at least one node for any nodes having the specified relationship with the identified node, the nodes of each database comprising or being logically ordered under at least one of a plurality of root nodes; and

an act of receiving taxonomy-related information having at least one identifier that corresponds to the identification data and a node having a the specified relationship that corresponds to the relationship data with the identified node in response to the query.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising, returning the taxonomy-related information in response to the request.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the identification data comprises an identifier of a taxonomy and the relationship data indicates a root node relationship, and wherein returning the taxonomy-related information in response to the request comprises returning an identifier of at least one root node within the taxonomy.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein returning the taxonomy-related information in response to the request comprises identifying the relationship along with each other node identifier that corresponds to the relationship data.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the identification data comprises an identifier of a taxonomy and a node identifier of a node within the taxonomy, and wherein returning the taxonomy-related information in response to the request comprises returning at least one other node identifier that corresponds to the relationship data.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the relationship data indicates a parent relationship.
7. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the relationship data indicates a child relationship.
8. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein returning the taxonomy- related information in response to the request comprises returning an identifier of another taxonomy.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 wherein returning the taxonomy- related information in response to the request further comprises returning at least one node identifier corresponding to at least one node in another taxonomy.
10. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the relationship data indicates an equivalence relationship.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein returning the taxonomy- related information in response to the request further comprises returning at least one attribute value that indicates whether a node corresponding to that attribute value comprises a classification node.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein returning the taxonomy- related information in response to the request further comprises returning at least one text string.
13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the request includes at least one other set of identification data and relationship data, and wherein the response returns data corresponding to the request in the order in which the identification data and relationship

data was received such that the first set of identification data and relationship data corresponds to a first part of the response and the at least one other set of identification data and relationship data corresponds to a second part of the response.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the request comprises an XML message, and wherein returning the taxonomy-related information in 4 response to the request further comprises formatting the response as an XML message.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the taxonomy-related information corresponds to a taxonomy maintained at a UDDI server.

16. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium having computer-executable instructions operable to execute the method of claim 1 in a computer system.

17. (Currently Amended) In a computing environment, a method for obtaining taxonomy information for one or more nodes in a taxonomy comprising a hierarchy of nodes where the taxonomy categorizes web services or web service providers, the method comprising:

an act of constructing a request for taxonomy data regarding one or more specified nodes, the specified nodes comprising or being logically ordered under at least one of a plurality of root nodes, the request including identification data from which a node within a the taxonomy may be identified and at least one relationship qualifier that identifies a desired relationship the node is to have with the specified nodes;

an act of communicating the request to a server;

an act of receiving a response from the server regarding the requested taxonomy data including identification information regarding the node corresponding to the identification data and relationship information corresponding to the relationship qualifier; and

an act of presenting information about the taxonomy including the received response to the computer user, the information based on the identification information and based on the relationship information in the response.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the identification data comprises a unique identifier and the relationship qualifier indicates a root node relationship with the taxonomy, and wherein the response includes information about at least one root node in the taxonomy.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the identification data further includes node identification data from which a node within the taxonomy is operable to be identified.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the relationship qualifier indicates a parent node of a node identified by the node identification data, and wherein the response includes information about the parent node.

21. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the relationship qualifier indicates a child node of a node identified by the node identification data, and wherein the response includes

information about at least one child node, if any exist.

22. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the relationship qualifier indicates an equivalent node of a node identified by the node identification data.

23. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein receiving the response from the server further includes receiving an attribute value that indicates whether a node in the taxonomy is intended as a classification node.

24. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein receiving the response from the server further includes receiving at least one text string that corresponds to a node in the taxonomy.

25. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein constructing a request for taxonomy data comprises constructing an XML message.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein communicating the request to a server comprises sending the XML message to a UDDI server.

27. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium having computer-executable instructions operable to execute the method of claim 17 in a computer system.

28. (Currently Amended) In a computing environment, a system for obtaining taxonomy information for one or more nodes in a taxonomy, the system comprising:

a client, the client including an application program that presents taxonomy-related data using received taxonomy data regarding one or more specified nodes, the specified nodes comprising or being logically ordered under at least one of a plurality of root nodes, the received taxonomy data including identification information regarding a node corresponding to the identification data and relationship information corresponding to a relationship qualifier; and

a server that maintains taxonomy data, the server ~~coupled~~ configured to receive taxonomy-related requests from the client seeking identification information regarding an existing node and relationship information that indicates the specified relationship between the identified node and the specified nodes ~~about nodes in a taxonomy~~, and in response to each request, to locate the relationship information corresponding to a the specified nodes in a ~~specified the taxonomy~~ and to return a response to the client ~~from which the client is operable to present the taxonomy-related data.~~

29. (Original) The system of claim 28 wherein the relationship information corresponding to the node in the specified taxonomy comprises a root qualifier.

30. (Original) The system of claim 28 wherein the relationship information corresponding to the node in the specified taxonomy comprises a parent qualifier.

31. (Original) The system of claim 28 wherein the relationship information corresponding to the node in the specified taxonomy comprises a child qualifier.

32. (Original) The system of claim 28 further comprising a database in which the server maintains the taxonomy data.

33. (Original) The system of claim 28 wherein the taxonomy-related requests from the client comprise XML messages.

34. (Original) The system of claim 28 wherein the response to the client comprises an

XML message.

35. (Original) The system of claim 28 wherein the server comprises a UDDI server.

36. (Original) The system of claim 28 wherein the client provides the request to the server by calling an application programming interface, the application programming interface formatting the request as a message for communicating with the server and returning the response to the client in response to the application programming interface call.

37-40. (canceled)

41. (Currently Amended) In a computing environment, a system for obtaining taxonomy information for one or more nodes in a taxonomy, the system comprising:

means for receiving a request that indicates identification data from which a node within the taxonomy may be identified and relationship data that indicates the desired relationship between the node and the identified node corresponding to a the taxonomy; and

means for extracting the identification data and the relationship data from the request;

means for querying a one or more databases based on in accordance with the identification data and the relationship data to obtain taxonomy-related information about at least one node for any nodes having the specified relationship with the identified node, the nodes of each database comprising or being logically ordered under at least one of a plurality of root nodes; in the taxonomy and

means for receiving taxonomy-related information having at least one identifier that corresponds to the identification data a node having the specified and relationship data with the identified node in response to the query.

42. (Original) The system of claim 41 further comprising means for returning the taxonomy-related information in response to the request.

43. (Original) The system of claim 41 wherein the means for querying the database comprises request handling means in a UDDI-server environment.